

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 May 2015

Previous inspection date

19 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder's flexible planning enables her to support children to follow their interests and lead their own learning. She encourages them to direct their own play and supports them well.
- The childminder tracks children's progress and identifies how to plan activities that will help children progress to the next stage in their learning.
- Children play safely in a dedicated playroom where they can help themselves to most resources. There is a good selection of equipment suitable for children of all ages that they enjoy playing with.
- The childminder shares good-quality information with parents about their children's needs. They speak every day, she sends daily diaries home, and uses text messages, email and newsletters to keep parents well informed about their children.
- The childminder regularly attends workshops and training to update her knowledge of early years practice. She is committed to her own professional development and keen to continually improve her skills and, subsequently, the provision for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children spend time outside every day being active; however, the childminder does not extend the learning opportunities when outside in the natural environment, so children can explore the great variety of sounds and experiences.
- The childminder does not ask the children or parents for their views on her practice, to acknowledge what she is doing well and identify how she might do things differently to improve further the provision for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- develop the range of learning opportunities for children outdoors
- seek the views of parents and children as part of the self-evaluation process.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the play room and kitchen.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's practice with her.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, including attendance registers, children's records and planning.

Inspector

Jill Steer

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Children develop their vocabulary and communication skills well because the childminder talks to them, questioning and describing what they are doing. When completing an alphabet puzzle, the childminder asked 'where do you think that goes?' and 'why doesn't that one fit?', challenging and helping children to think for themselves. The childminder plans suitable activities based on children's interests and at the correct level of challenge, so they make consistent progress in all areas of learning. The childminder involves parents in children's learning from the start by finding out what they know their children can do. She regularly updates developmental records and agrees, with parents, how they will plan to challenge the children further. The childminder prepares children for going to pre-school and school by taking them to play sessions, where they are part of a larger group, like in a class. She has many discussions about what children can expect and encourages their independence so they do not have to ask for help with their self-care needs.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder takes children out often and has strict guidelines for them to keep safe. Children know to hold hands and, when they get to the roads, to look both ways and listen for cars before they can cross safely, often with the school-crossing man. Children are relaxed and confident in the childminder's home. She helps them settle well by getting to know and trust her. Children behave well and the childminder explains the consequences their actions may have, to help them understand the best way to do things. Children eat healthy food and learn how food and lifestyles can affect their bodies. The childminder explains that if it is cold, they have to wrap up, and when it is warm and they have been active, they need to wear less.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and organises her childminding service efficiently. She maintains all the required documentation relating to children's care. The childminder promptly addressed recommendations made at her last inspection to improve the quality of provision and overall, she uses self-evaluation well. She has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures so that she can protect children's welfare, including reporting concerns. The childminder monitors children's progress effectively so that she can plan for their future learning and progress. She has good partnerships with other settings children attend, and they share useful information, such as planning for individual children's learning. This provides consistency in children's learning so they make good progress and gain a wider range of experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	155399
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	841970
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex. The childminder operates Monday to Friday, from 7am to 7pm. She collects children from the local schools. The childminder is currently in receipt of funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She sometimes also cares for a small dog during the day.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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